CLAIMS

1. A formulation comprising:
(a) eicosapentaenoic acid or an ester thereof; and
(b) a triterpene or an ester thereof.

2. A formulation according to claim 1 comprising substantially no docosahexaenoic acid.

3. A formulation according to claim 1 comprising no docosahexaenoic acid.

4. A formulation according to any preceding claim in which the eicosapentaenoic acid or ester thereof is selected from the group comprising natural eicosapentaenoic acids, synthetic eicosapentaenoic acids, naturally occurring esters of eicosapentaenoic acids, synthetic esters of eicosapentaenoic acids, and combinations thereof.

5. A formulation according to any preceding claim in which the eicosapentaenoic acid or ester thereof is isolated from fish oil.

6. A formulation according to any preceding claim in which the eicosapentaenoic acid or ester thereof is pure.

7. A formulation according to any preceding claim in which the triterpene or ester thereof is selected from the group comprising naturally occurring triterpenes, synthetic triterpenes, naturally occurring esters of a triterpene, and synthetic esters of a triterpene, and combinations thereof.

8. A formulation according to claim 7 in which the triterpene is selected from the group comprising 3-*O*-trans caffeoyl derivatives of betulinic acid, morolic acid or oleanolic acid, faradiol-*O*-laurate, faradiol-*O*-palmitate and faradiol-*O*-myristate.

9. A formulation according to any preceding claim in which the triterpene is isolated from the flower heads of marigolds (*Calendula officinalis*), *Zygophyllum eichwaldii, Carthamus lanatus, Oenothera bienni* (evening primrose) or *Pyrus comminus*.

10. A formulation according to claim 9 in which the triterpene is provided in the form of evening primrose oil.

11. A formulation according to claim 10 in which the evening primrose oil is virgin evening primrose oil.

12. A formulation according to any preceding claim comprising up to 99% w/w of eicosapentaenoic acid or an ester thereof.

13. A formulation according to claim 12 comprising up to 50% w/w of eicosapentaenoic acid or an ester thereof.

14. A formulation according to any preceding claim comprising up to 99% w/w of triterpene or an ester thereof.

15. A formulation according to claim 14 comprising up to 50% w/w of triterpene or an ester thereof.

16. A formulation according to claim 12 comprising up to 70% w/w of eicosapentaenoic acid or an ester thereof and from 1 to 30% w/w of a triterpene or an ester thereof.

17. A formulation according to any preceding claim in a pharmaceutically acceptable form.

18. A formulation according to any preceding claim comprising a pharmaceutical carrier, diluent or excipient.

19. A formulation according to any preceding claim comprising one or more components selected from lubricants, flavourings, taste masking agents, fragrances and preservatives.

20. A formulation according to any preceding claim comprising one or more compounds for co-administration.

21. A formulation according to claim 20 comprising gamma-linolenic acid.

22. A formulation according to claim 20 or 21 comprising conjugated linoleic acid.

23. Use of a formulation according to any preceding claim in the treatment of physiological and disease states selected from the group comprising rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, back-ache, psoriasis, pre-menstrual syndrome, bacterial infections, viral infections, fatigue, insomnia, anxiety, obesity, influenza, diabetes mellitus, alcoholism, cancer, neurological disorders, epilepsy, tardive dyskinesia and choreiform disorders, psychiatric disorders, cardiovascular disorders, dermatological disorders, respiratory disorders, learning disabilities and ageing.

24. A liquid, a paste, a tablet or a capsule for oral administration comprising the formulation of any one of claims 1 to 22.

25. An inert porous matrix tablet comprising a formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 22 also comprising one or more of a wax, a water insoluble polymer, a filler and a binder.

26. A compound for topical application comprising a formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 22.

27. A compound according to claim 26 also comprising one or more components selected from occlusive agents, surfactant systems and water.

28. A compound according to claim 26 or 27 comprising one or more solvents.

29. A compound according to claim 27 in which the occlusive agent is selected from the group comprising petrolatum, microcrystalline wax, dimethicone, beeswax, mineral oil, squalane, liquid paraffin, shea butter, carnauba wax, a blend of isoparaffin/polyacrylamide/laureth-7, and combinations thereof.

30. A compound according to claim 27 in which the surfactant system exhibits a HLB value in a range from about 7.0 to about 10.9.

31. A compound according to claim 27 or claim 30 in which the surfactant system is selected from the group comprising CETOMACROGOLO™ 1000 (Crodor, Inc.), glycerol monostearate, glycerol distearate, glyceryl stearate, polyoxyethylene stearate, a blend of glyceryl stearate and PEG-100

stearate (as ARLACEL™ 165), polysorbate 40, polysorbate 60, polysorbate 80, CETETH™-200, sorbitan monopalimate, sorbitan monostearate, sorbitan monooleate, and combinations thereof.

32. A compound according to any of claims 26 to 31 comprising one or more components selected from carriers, skin conditioners, preservatives, buffers, fragrances and water.

33. A method for the treatment of physiological and disease states including rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, back-ache, psoriasis, pre-menstrual syndrome, bacterial infections, viral infections, fatigue, insomnia, anxiety, obesity, influenza, diabetes mellitus, alcoholism, cancer, neurological disorders, epilepsy, tardive dyskinesia and choreiform disorders, psychiatric disorders, cardiovascular disorders, dermatological disorders, respiratory disorders, learning disability and ageing, in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 22.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein the eicosapentaenoic acid, or an ester thereof, and the triterpene, or an ester thereof, are administered simultaneously, either in the same or different formulations, or sequentially

35. A formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 22 for use in a method of treatment of a human or animal body by surgery or therapy or of diagnosis practised on the human or animal body.

36. The use of a formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 22, in the manufacture or preparation of a medicament for the treatment of physiological and disease states including rheumatoid arthritis,

osteoarthritis, back-ache, psoriasis, pre-menstrual syndrome, bacterial infections, viral infections, fatigue, insomnia, anxiety, obesity, influenza, diabetes mellitus, alcoholism, cancer, neurological disorders, epilepsy, tardive dyskinesia and choreiform disorders, psychiatric disorders, cardiovascular disorders, dermatological disorders, respiratory disorders, learning disabilities and ageing.

37. The use of a formulation according to any of claims 1 to 22 in cosmetic treatment.

38. The use of claim 37 to have an anti-ageing effect or to reverse the process of ageing.

39. The formulation according to any of claims 1 to 22 in a cosmetically acceptable form.

40. The formulation according to claim 39 comprising a cosmetically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

41. A formulation according to claim 39 or 40 for oral or topical administration.

42. A method of cosmetic treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 22.

43. A method for preparing a topical formulation comprising mixing eicosapentaenoic acid or an ester thereof and a triterpene or an ester thereof with a topically acceptable carrier.

44. A method for preparing an orally administered formulation comprising mixing eicosapentaenoic acid or an ester thereof and a triterpene or an ester thereof with an orally acceptable carrier.

45. A method according to claim 44 including adding a flavouring or a taste masking agent to the formulation.

46. The use of eicosapentaenoic acid or an ester thereof, and a triterpene or an ester thereof, administered simultaneously, either in the same or different formulations, or sequentially, or separately, in a method of treatment of a human or animal body by surgery or therapy or of diagnosis practised on the human or animal body.